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**Governor's Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives requests nominations for Service Awards**

INDIANAPOLIS, IN (April 12, 2012) The Governor's Service Awards are Indiana's most prestigious awards celebrating the accomplishments of dedicated volunteers and practitioners from across the state. Nominations are currently being accepted for individuals who have displayed exemplary service through volunteering in the categories of Communities of Service, Corporate Service, Youth Service, National Service, Community Service, Faith-Based Service, Volunteerism, and Lifetime Achievement. The awards are presented annually at the Governor's Conference for Service and Nonprofit Capacity Building. In 2012, the awardees will be recognized at a special event to be held at the Governor's residence.

As in previous years, the goal of the conference will be to provide a forum where Indiana nonprofit leaders, volunteer coordinators, national service members and service-learning participants can engage in meaningful dialogue, exchange best practices, receive training, establish partnerships, and celebrate accomplishments. Individuals can go to the OFBCI website at: <http://www.in.gov/ofbci/2389.htm> to learn more about the 2012 conference as well as the Government Grant Symposiums that will lead up to it.

To nominate an individual, a group, or yourself, download the nomination form from the website at <http://www.in.gov/ofbci/2390.htm>. Once the form is completed, it can be submitted electronically or by mail. The OFBCI requests that all nominations be submitted by July 27, 2012.

For more information regarding the regional conferences or the service awards, please contact Debbie Pidgeon at [dpidgeon@ofbci.in.gov](mailto:dpidgeon@ofbci.in.gov).

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*The Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives promotes service and volunteerism in the State of Indiana. Working together with other government agencies, AmeriCorps\*State programs, volunteer centers, and faith-based and community organizations, the OFBCI helps Hoosiers to develop and implement solutions their own communities.*